

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICANT:	Zhen Chen et al.	§	GROUP ART UNIT:
		§	Not Yet Assigned
SERIAL NO.:	Not Yet Assigned	§	
		§	EXAMINER:
FILED:	Concurrently Herewith	§	Unknown
		§	
FOR:	Recover and Recycle Rhodium From	§	
	Spent Partial Oxidation Catalysts	§	

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Atty. Dkt. No.: 1856-24601 (9482.A)

Date: April 21, 2004

Commissioner for Patents
P. O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

This Information Disclosure Statement, including completed Form PTO-1449, comprises a list of pertinent art of which Applicants are aware.

Consideration of art cited in following related applications and additional information is requested:

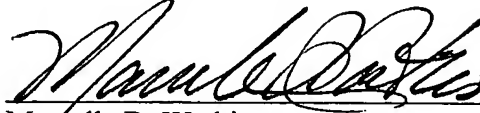
U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 10/176,224, filed June 20, 2002, entitled Recover and Recycle Rhodium From Spent Partial Oxidation Catalysts.

A copy of each publication listed on Form PTO 1449 is enclosed herewith except that pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.98 (d), copies of certain patents, publications, pending U.S. application(s) or other information, as specified in 37 C.F.R. § 1.98 (a), listed in the attached Form PTO-1449 are not provided herewith, as they have been previously submitted to, or cited by, the Office in the above-mentioned earlier U.S. Patent Application(s). The Information Disclosure Statement filed in the earlier application(s) complies with 37 C.F.R. § 1.98 (a)-(c).

The submission of this Information Disclosure Statement and the references submitted therewith is not an admission that the art cited is "prior" with respect to the present invention, nor is it a representation, that no better art exists. Applicants hereby reserve the right to swear behind or otherwise disprove any alleged "prior" nature of any art cited should the facts support and the

situation warrant such an action. It is submitted that the art cited does not constitute a bar to the patentability of Applicants' invention under 35 U.S.C. § 102 or § 103.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Marcella D. Watkins', written over a horizontal line.

Marcella D. Watkins

Reg. No. 36,962

CONLEY, ROSE, P.C.

P. O. Box 3267

Houston, Texas 77253-3267

(713) 238-8000

ATTORNEY/AGENT FOR APPLICANT

Form PTO-1449 (Modified) INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT (Use several sheets if necessary)						Atty. Docket No. 1856-24601 (9482.A)		Serial No. Not Yet Assigned	
						Applicant Zhen Chen et al.			
						Filing Date Concurrently Herewith		Group	

REFERENCE DESIGNATION U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS							
EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUB-CLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
	AA*	3855385	12/17/1974	<i>Derosset et al.</i>	423	49	
	AB*	4094821	06/13/1978	<i>McVicker et al.</i>	252	466	
	AC*	5201942	04/13/1993	<i>Demopoulos et al.</i>	75	744	
	AD*	5302183	04/12/1994	<i>De Boer et al.</i>	75	426	
	AE*	6315812	11/13/2001	<i>Fleming et al.</i>	75	744	04/28/1999
	AF*	4434240	02/28/1984	<i>Pugach</i>	502	24	
	AG*	4795538	01/03/1989	<i>Caude et al.</i>	204	111	
	AH*	4990639	02/05/1991	<i>Bexten et al.</i>	556	136	
	AI*	5085835	02/04/1992	<i>Weber et al.</i>	423	22	
	AJ*	5102632	04/07/1992	<i>Allen et al.</i>	423	22	
	AK*	5364445	11/15/1994	<i>Sakamoto et al.</i>	75	426	08/04/1993
	AL*	5403566	04/04/1995	<i>Panster et al.</i>	423	22	05/13/1994
	AM*	6225507	05/01/2001	<i>Giessler et al.</i>	568	451	02/12/1997
	AN*	4482752	11/13/1984	<i>Mitchell et al.</i>	585	670	
	AO*	6455018	09/24/2002	<i>Cuif</i>	423	21.1	05/15/1995

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS								
		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUB-CLASS	Translation	
							YES	NO

OTHER ART (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)		

EXAMINER	DATE CONSIDERED
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EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP '609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to the applicant.

124259.01/1856.24601

* Previously Cited in Parent Case